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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9469  
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 0606  
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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: MEDIA REACTION - COLOMBIA, FARC, SCO PAULO

August 3, 2009  
Title- More balance  
Editorial in liberal Folha de S.Paulo (8-3) states: "....Colombia's relation with its 'Bolivarian' neighbors Venezuela and Ecuador is once more going through a delicate moment. The reason for the disagreement is the expansion of the U.S. military acting in Colombian territory.....Brazil is right in expressing apprehension over what looks like a strategy by the superpower of increasing its military presence in the region. It is not good for the Hemisphere that imbalances and propitious conditions for a military race are created. ....It is worth noting that the Venezuelan President closed military deals with Russia and offered installations for that country's [military] forces. The Brazilian government said nothing about it. Brazil is in a position to play a relevant role in the regional and international scenario. But, without equilibrium, the risk is that it loses the confidence and the respect needed for this mission."

WHITE